



NEWS RELEASE

October 28, 2002

McAllen Sector Weekend Marijuana Seizures Total \$1.8 Million

McALLEN, Texas – Chief Patrol Agent Jose E. Garza, announces that Border Patrol Agents of the McAllen Sector seized 2,290 pounds of marijuana, in thirteen seizures valued at \$1,832,000 over the weekend.

On October 25, 2002, at approximately 12:30 p.m., Agents of the Falfurrias Border Patrol CheckPoint arrested Jenette Moreno a United States Citizen, 27 years of age from Roma, Texas. A detailed search of the vehicle revealed that all four tires mounted on the car were loaded with marijuana. The marijuana totaled 74 pounds of marijuana. The marijuana was valued at \$59,200.00.

On October 25, 2002, at approximately 8:40 p.m., Falfurrias Border Patrol Agents arrested Maria Elia Moreno a United States Citizen, 66 years of age from San Antonio, Texas. A detailed search of the vehicle revealed several bundles of marijuana in the interior roof area of the van. The marijuana totaled 111 pounds, with a value of \$88,800.00.

On October 25, 2002, at approximately 8:00 a.m., McAllen Border Patrol Agents seized 973 pounds of marijuana. The marijuana was valued at \$778,400.00. While conducting line-watch operations, Agents observed a van leaving at a high rate of speed from the river area in an area notorious for narcotics smuggling. As Agents attempted to stop this vehicle it was able to gain enough distance at which time two male subjects jumped from the van and swam back across the river to Mexico. While inspecting the van Agents discovered 13 sugar sacks containing marijuana.

On October 25, 2002, at approximately 8:32 p.m., McAllen Border Patrol Agents seized 335 pounds of marijuana. The marijuana was valued at \$268,560.00. While working traffic Agents observed six to seven subjects carrying large bundles. As they approached these subjects the Agents identified themselves and the subjects dropped the bundles and ran into the brush. None of the subjects were apprehended, however six bundles of marijuana were recovered.

On October 25, 2002, at approximately 8:41 p.m., Rio Grande City Border Patrol Agents seized 159 pounds of marijuana. The marijuana was valued at \$127,200.00. As the Agents walked a trail leading up from the Rio Grande River, they discovered three bundles of marijuana. A search in the immediate area proved negative for subjects.

On October 26, 2002, at approximately 3:00 p.m., Rio Grande City Border Patrol Agents seized 343 pounds of marijuana. The marijuana was valued at \$274,400.00. Agents discovered four bundles of marijuana in an area notorious for narcotics smuggling. A search for the smugglers of the narcotics proved negative.

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